

REMARKS

The Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for thoroughly reviewing and considering the pending application. The Office Action dated August 23, 2004 has been received and carefully reviewed. Claims 1 and 2 have been amended. New claims 3-10 have been added. Claims 1-10 are currently pending. Reexamination and reconsideration are respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejected claims 1 and 2 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement, as noted therein. In addition, the Office Action rejected claims 1 and 2 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the Applicants regard as the invention, as discussed in the Office Action. The Applicants have amended claims 1 and 2 so they now more clearly recite the subject matter. Accordingly, the Applicants request that the Examiner withdraw these rejections.

The Office Action also rejected claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,555,647 to *Torborg et al.* (hereinafter "*Torborg*"). The Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

As required in Chapter 2131 of the M.P.E.P., in order to anticipate a claim under 35 U.S.C. §102, "the reference must teach every element of the claim." The Applicants respectfully submit that *Torborg* does not teach every element recited in claim 1. Thus, *Torborg* cannot anticipate claim 1. For example, claim 1 recites, among other features, a "motor shaft comprising a chamfer disposed between the fan and the motor." *Torborg* does not disclose this feature. At most, *Torborg* teaches a blower drive shaft 34 having an annular groove 35 for retaining a fan 46 on the blower drive shaft 34. See col. 3, lines 55-62. As such, the Applicants

respectfully submit that *Torborg* fails to disclose each and every element recited in claim 1, and request that the rejection be withdrawn.

In addition, the Office Action rejected claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Torborg* in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,203,093 to *Baker* (hereinafter "*Baker*"). The Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

As required in Chapter 2143.03 of the M.P.E.P., in order to "establish *prima facie* obviousness of the claimed invention, all the limitations must be taught or suggested by the prior art." The Applicants respectfully submit that neither *Torborg* nor *Baker*, either singularly or in combination, disclose all the elements recited in claim 2. As discussed above, *Torborg* fails to disclose each and every element of claim 1, from which claim 2 depends. Similarly, the Applicants submit that *Baker* fails to overcome the shortcomings of *Torborg*. More specifically, *Baker* fails to disclose a motor shaft structure including "a chamfer disposed between the fan and the motor." Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully submit that claim 2 is patentable over *Torborg* in view of *Baker* and request that the rejection be withdrawn.

The Applicants believe the application is in a condition for allowance and favorable action is respectfully solicited. If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the

Application No.: 10/660,732
Amendment dated
Reply to Office Action dated August 23, 2004

Docket No.: 9988.057.00-US

filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Dated: November 19, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Mark R. Kresloff

Registration No.: 42,766

MCKENNA LONG & ALDRIDGE LLP

1900 K Street, N.W.

Washington, DC 20006

Attorney for Applicants